things, contribute to Vitamin 'A' deficiency leading to night blindness. According to a random survey conducted by ICMR, in Rajasthan and Gujarat 13.6 per cent and 0.7 per cent respectively the pre-school children suffer from night blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency. The Voluntary Health Association has conducted a survey in Rajasthan only and that too has covered only one village. The corrective steps taken by the Government include, extensive Health education, additional supply of Vitamin 'A' and continuous monitoring of the drought situation both at the State and Central level. The programme of Prophylaxis against blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency started in the IV Five Year Plan is being continued with progressively increasing coverage of children in the age group of 1—5 years.

Grievances of Porters

2915. SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Delhi Railway Licence Porters Union' Delhi, has served a notice dated the 23rd February, 1988 regarding their grievances;

(b) if so, what are the details of their demands;

(c) what action has been taken in this regard;

(d) the outcome thereto;

(e) whether Government has discussed with the representatives of these porters/coolies; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) A representation dated 23rd February, 1988 addressed to Shri Ram Naresh Khushwaha, MP has been forwarded by Hon'ble Home Minister to the Minister of State (Railways).

(b) The demands include:—

(i) Protection against atrocities by the GRP staff on licensed porters.

(ii) Licensed porters be given the status of a railway employee.

(iii) Porterage rates be increased.

(iv) Provision of rest shelters for licensed porters at stations.

(v) Discharged licensed porters be reinstated.

(vi) Facility of transfer of licence badge of porters to anyone.

(vii) Prevention of entry of unauthorised porters into railway stations/premises.

(c) and (d) The demands have been examined and the reply is under issue.

(e) No. Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Delivery Rooms at Railway Stations

2916. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations which have delivery rooms, zonewise;

(b) the number of railway stations which are to be provided this facility during the next three years; and

(c) the total earnings of Railways through this head in delivery rooms from April 1986 to February 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There are no "delivery rooms" as such at railway stations.